

CHAPTER NO. 56

SENATE BILL NO. 165

By Cohen, Atchley, Burks, Clabough, Cooper, Crowe, Crutchfield, Davis, Dixon, Elsea, Ford, Fowler, Graves, Harper, Haun, Haynes, Henry, Herron, Kurita, Kyle, Leatherwood, McNally, Person, Rochelle, Springer, Williams, Womack, Mr. Speaker Wilder

Substituted for: House Bill No. 843

By Mr. Speaker Naifeh, Rinks, Lois DeBerry, Hargrove, Williams, Langster, Bone, McDonald, West, Armstrong, Arriola, Baird, Beavers, Black, Bowers, Boyer, Briley, Brooks, Brown, Buck, Bunch, Buttry, Caldwell, Chumney, Ralph Cole, Ronnie Cole, Cooper, Curtiss, Davidson, David Davis, Ronnie Davis, John DeBerry, Dunn, Eckles, Ferguson, Fitzhugh, Ford, Fowlkes, Fraley, Garrett, Givens, Godsey, Goins, Gunnels, Hagood, Hargett, Harwell, Hassell, Head, Hood, Jackson, Sherry Jones, Ulysses Jones, Kent, Kernell, Kerr, Kisber, Lewis, Maddox, McCord, McDaniel, McKee, McMillan, Miller, Montgomery, Mumpower, Newton, Odom, Patton, Phelan, Phillips, Pinion, Pleasant, Pruitt, Rhinehart, Ridgeway, Roach, Robinson, Sands, Sargent, Scroggs, Sharp, Stulce, Tidwell, Tindell, Todd, Towns, Larry Turner, Walker, Walley, Westmoreland, White, Whitson, Windle, Winningham, Wood

AN ACT To designate the interstate highway system within the State of Tennessee as the "Senator Albert Gore, Sr. Memorial Interstate System".

WHEREAS, Senator Albert Gore, Sr. recently passed from this life after a distinguished career in public service and politics that truly stands unparalleled in the annals of Tennessee history; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gore contributed significantly to the growth, prosperity and social progress of this state and this nation during his meritorious tenure in the U.S. Congress; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable gentleman leaves behind a model legacy of exemplary public service and inspired leadership, and his distinguished presence will be sorely missed; and

WHEREAS, He accomplished a great deal both in his public and private lives, while remaining true to his heritage as a Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gore was a gifted statesman who always stood by his convictions and who diligently worked to further the causes important to America's working people and to improve their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Throughout all his endeavors, Senator Gore evidenced extraordinary compassion for the poor and the disenfranchised and stalwart commitment to equality for all American citizens; and

WHEREAS, Due to his finely honed sense of justice and equity, Albert Gore, Sr. unwaveringly stood by his principles: he was one of only two southern Senators who refused to sign the "Southern Manifesto", which opposed racial integration; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gore proved himself to be a progressive thinker by providing wisdom and leadership to a Congress that embraced civil and voting rights and racial equality via its passage of the Civil Rights Act; and

WHEREAS, He obtained national recognition and earned a place in history when he sponsored legislation that led to the establishment of Medicare; and

WHEREAS, Senator Albert Gore, Sr. perhaps reached the pinnacle of his distinguished political career when he drafted and deftly steered to passage legislation that founded the United States interstate system; and

WHEREAS, Renowned as the "father of the U.S. interstate system", Senator Gore was also responsible for the implementation of limited access ramps and the "cloverleaf ramp" design for interstate highways; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gore retired from public life in 1970 after honorably serving in the U.S. Congress for 32 exemplary years, 18 years of which illustrious tenure was spent in the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Because he was nationally recognized as the "father of the U.S. interstate system", it is most appropriate for this General Assembly to posthumously honor Senator Gore by naming Tennessee's interstate system in his honor; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the interstate highway system within the State of Tennessee is hereby designated as the "Senator Albert Gore, Sr. Memorial Interstate System" as a lasting tribute to this peerless public servant, distinguished statesman and great Tennessean.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs at the first available location at which each interstate highway enters the State of Tennessee designating the interstate highway system within the State of Tennessee as the "Senator Albert Gore, Sr. Memorial Interstate System".

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: March 22, 1999


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 7th day of April 1999


DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR